

COUNTRY DATA: EGYPT: Information from the CIA World Factbook

INTRODUCTION

The regularity and richness of the annual Nile River flood, coupled with semi-isolation provided by deserts to the east and west, allowed for the development of one of the world's great civilizations. A unified kingdom arose circa 3200 B.C., and a series of dynasties ruled in Egypt for the next three millennia. The last native dynasty fell to the Persians in 341 B.C., who in turn were replaced by the Greeks, Romans, and Byzantines. It was the Arabs who introduced Islam and the Arabic language in the 7th century and who ruled for the next six centuries. A local military caste, the Mamluks took control about 1250 and continued to govern after the conquest of Egypt by the Ottoman Turks in 1517. Following the completion of the Suez Canal in 1869, Egypt became an important world transportation hub, but also fell heavily into debt. Ostensibly to protect its investments, Britain seized control of Egypt's government in 1882, but nominal allegiance to the Ottoman Empire continued until 1914. Partially independent from the UK in 1922, Egypt acquired full sovereignty with the overthrow of the British-backed monarchy in 1952. The completion of the Aswan High Dam in 1971 and the resultant Lake Nasser have altered the time-honored place of the Nile River in the agriculture and ecology of Egypt. A rapidly growing population (the largest in the Arab world), limited arable land, and dependence on the Nile all continue to overtax resources and stress society. The government has struggled to meet the demands of Egypt's growing population through economic reform and massive investment in communications and physical infrastructure.

GEOGRAPHY

Location	Northern Africa, bordering the Mediterranean Sea, between Libya and the Gaza Strip, and the Red Sea north of Sudan, and includes the Asian Sinai Peninsula.
Area	1,001,450 sq km
Climate	Desert; hot, dry summers with moderate winters.
Natural Resources	Petroleum, natural gas, iron ore, phosphates, manganese, limestone, gypsum, talc, asbestos, lead, rare earth elements, zinc.
Total Renewable Water Resources	86.8 cu km (1997)
Freshwater Withdrawal	68.3 cu km/yr (8%/6%/86%)
Natural Hazards	Periodic droughts; frequent earthquakes; flash floods; landslides; hot, driving windstorm called khamsin occurs in spring; dust storms; sandstorms.
Environmental Issues	Agricultural land being lost to urbanization and windblown sands; increasing soil salination below Aswan High Dam; desertification; oil pollution threatening coral reefs, beaches, and marine habitats; other water pollution from agricultural pesticides, raw sewage, and industrial effluents; limited natural fresh water resources away from the Nile, which is the only perennial water source; rapid growth in population overstraining the Nile and natural resources.

PEOPLE

Population	80,471,869 (July 2010 est.)
Ethnic Groups	Egyptian 99.6%, other 0.4% (2006 census).
Religions	Muslim (mostly Sunni) 90%, Coptic 9%, other Christian 1%
Languages	Arabic (official), English and French widely understood by educated classes.
Literacy Rate	71.4%
Major Infectious Diseases	Degree of risk: intermediate Food or waterborne diseases: bacterial diarrhea, hepatitis A, and typhoid fever Vectorborne disease: Rift Valley fever Water contact disease: schistosomiasis <i>note:</i> highly pathogenic H5N1 avian influenza has been identified in this country; it poses a negligible risk with extremely rare cases possible among US citizens who have close contact with birds (2009) HIV/AIDS – adult prevalence rate: less than 0.1% (2001 est.)
GOVERNMENT	
Type	Republic
Independence	28 February 1922 (from UK protectorate status; the revolution that began 23 July 1952 led to a republic being declared on 18 June 1953 and all British troops withdrawn 18 June 1956).
Constitution	11 September 1971; amended 22 May 1980, 25 May 2005, and 26 March 2007.
Legal System	Based on Islamic and civil law (particularly Napoleonic codes); judicial review by Supreme Court and Council of State (oversees validity of administrative decisions); accepts compulsory International Court of Justice jurisdiction with reservations.
ECONOMY	
Agricultural Products	Cotton, rice, corn, wheat, beans, fruits, vegetables; cattle, water buffalo, sheep, goats.
Industries	Textiles, food processing, tourism, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, hydrocarbons, construction, cement, metals, light manufactures.
Import commodities	Machinery and equipment, foodstuffs, chemicals, wood products, fuels.
Import Partners	US 9.92%, China 9.63%, Germany 6.98%, Italy 6.88%, Turkey 4.94% (2009).
Export Commodities	Crude oil and petroleum products, cotton, textiles, metal products, chemicals, processed food.
Export Partners	US 7.95%, Italy 7.26%, Spain 6.78%, India 6.69%, Saudi Arabia 5.53%, Syria 5.3%, France 4.39%, South Korea 4.27% (2009).
Per Capita GDP	\$5,900 (2009 est.)

Population below poverty line	20% (2005 est.)
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*CITATIONS: All information included above is extracted from the CIA World Factbook except where noted.

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General	
Life Expectancy at Birth (in years)	70.5 years
Average number of years in School (in years)	6.5 years
Gross National Income Per Capita (In US Dollars)	\$5,889
Gender Inequality	
Female Seats in Parliament (%)	3.7%
Population with at least a Secondary Education Female (% Of 25 and older)	43.4%
Population with at least a Secondary Education Male (% Of 25 and older)	61.1%
Labor Force Participation Female (%)	24.4%
Labor Force Participation Male (%)	76.4%
Births Attended by Skilled Health Professionals (%)	79%
Poverty	
Population surviving on \$1.25 per day (%)	<2%
Empowerment	
Number of Journalists Imprisoned	3
Corruption Victims (% of people who face a bribe situation in the last year)	24%
Political Engagement (% percent of people who voiced opinion to public officials)	12%

Sustainability	
Fossil Fuels as Primary Energy Source (%)	96%
Renewable Resources as Primary Energy Source (%)	4%
Population without Access to Water (%)	1%
Population Without Access to Sanitation Services (%)	6%
Population affected by natural disasters (% between 2000-2009)	0
Human Security	
Number of Refugees leaving this country	6,800
Number of Internally Displaced People in This Country	NA
Prevalence of Undernourishment (%)	<5%
Demographics	
Urban Residents (% of total Population)	43.4%
Health	
HIV Prevalence in Female Youth (% ages 15-24)	NA
HIV Prevalence in Male Youth (% ages 15-24)	NA
HIV Prevalence in Adults (% ages 15-49)	NA
Other	
Official Development Assistance Per Capita (in US dollars)	\$16.50
Population without Electricity (%)	.6%

Egypt's Public Expenditure

